

To: R7 SUPR[R7_SUPR@epa.gov]
From: Peterson, Mary
Sent: Fri 8/14/2015 10:17:24 PM
Subject: A Note from the Director

As another busy week winds down, I want to highlight a few items for your attention and bring you up to date on events in the Division.

I'm sure you are all aware of the Gold King Mine release that occurred in Colorado last week. This incident has attracted much attention internally and externally, and will likely have some implications on our program work. For your awareness, Region 7 has deployed 5 personnel to Farmington, New Mexico to assist with water sampling. Brian Mitchell, our Response Support Corps Coordinator has been diligently working to identify a cadre of additional personnel that can deploy if the need arises. We currently do NOT have any additional requests for staffing the response. Many of you new to EPA may not be familiar with the Response Support Corps (RSC). The RSC is essentially a cadre of non-OSC personnel who are trained and certified to deploy and fulfill a variety of support roles during large incidents and natural disasters. These support roles can include sampling, contractor oversight, community outreach, logistics support, Incident Management Team (IMT) support and many other roles. You can learn more about the RSC by watching this video link <http://www.ertvideo.org/content/epa-response-support-corps-rsc> , or you can contact Brian Mitchell at x7633.

In the wake of the Gold King Mine release, each region is being asked to identify any similar sites or situations vulnerable to such a catastrophic release. Many of you have been tasked with gathering that information, and I greatly appreciate your prompt and thorough responses. We may continue to receive direction and data calls from OSWER over the coming weeks.

I know that you are all anxious to learn about plans for a SUPR reorganization. Some general objectives include consolidating like work functions, providing career progression paths, and facilitating consistency in decision-making. I hope to have a proposal out for your review in the next few weeks.

A few reminders:

1. **Feds Feeds Families – cAnstruction next week - bring in a bunch of canned goods or other foods MONDAY or TUESDAY next week that can be used in building something.**

Bring it to the REOC, we'll find a spot for it. Then on August 19, we will construct or finish constructing one or more structures out of the donated food.

2. Summer Social Event – 1-3 pm on August 27 on the patio outside the Marketplace. Senior Staff will provide “pop” themed treats and various EPA programs will show off their amazing work and capabilities.

Lastly, please welcome Sarah Watterson aboard as the newest member of MOKS Branch! She is sitting next to Whitney Rawls. I know that Sarah will be a great addition to our SUPR team!

I hope you all have a wonderful and relaxing weekend.

Mary P. Peterson, Director

Superfund Division

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*“To safeguard the health of our communities for all generations,
we clean up contaminated lands.
In a culture of teamwork and respect,
we are efficient, innovative, and fiscally responsible stewards of public trust.”*